

NANCY L. JOHNSON  
5TH DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

COMMITTEE ON  
WAYS AND MEANS

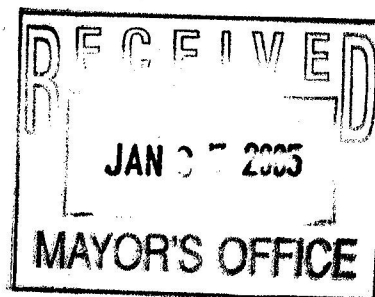
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January 25, 2005

Mr. Eduardo Aguirre, Jr.  
Director  
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services  
425 I Street, N.W.  
ULLICO Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20536



Dear Director Aguirre:

I am writing you today in support of the request made by Danbury, Connecticut Mayor Mark Boughton who asked for assistance from your agency to bring enforcement resources to Danbury.

The city of Danbury, with a population of 75,000, has been by the recent influx of up to 20,000 illegal immigrants. I call this to your attention because the local authorities are not prepared to address this growing problem. As the federal agency with the responsibility for apprehending individuals who have managed to enter the country illegally, I implore you to intervene.

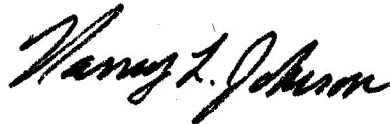
Last year, Connecticut's largest newspaper, the "*Hartford Courant*", exposed the nature of the problem and the tremendous burden it places on our communities. The story used the story of Ganasol, a small town in Ecuador as the back drop. "In 1990, the population of Ganasol was estimated at 700. A recent local survey counted 326 people. More than 400 people from Ganasol now live in Danbury, according to estimates by immigrants." Apparently, over one-half of a small Ecuadorean town has relocated to Danbury. This anecdote is a small group is a small example of the larger problem.

This situation has placed a tremendous strain on the local governments, social services, education budgets and medical services. Too make matters worse, illegal immigrants are creating an everyday risk for Danbury residents. For example, many are driving cars without a license or car insurance, placing licensed drivers at great risk. Additionally, the influx has created a nightmare scenario for local zoning officials due to the overpopulation of illegal apartments and rooming houses.

I am a strong believer in the legal immigration process, but the situation confronting Danbury represents a threat to the stability and growth of a small city. The burden is so great that I believe it requires your immediate attention.

I look forward to working with you and your department to reach a solution to this growing problem.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Nancy L. Johnson". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid, with a large initial 'N' and a long, sweeping 'J'.

Nancy L. Johnson  
Member of Congress

cc: Mayor Mark Boughton